

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 10992 01 OF 02 051326Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07  
INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 TRSE-00 FRB-01 OMB-01  
DODE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 HEW-06 SS-15  
NSC-05 H-02 EPG-02 /102 W  
-----056258 051342Z /46

R 051233Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5781  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
USMISSION NATO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USNMR SHAPE  
AMCONSUL BELFAST  
AMCONSUL EDINBURGH

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 10992

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY  
USOECN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

PASS LABOR, TREASURY, FRB

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ELAB, UK, PINT  
SUBJECT: THE YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM: "A NEW DEAL  
FOR BRITAIN'S YOUTH"?

SUMMARY. SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EMPLOYMENT ALBERT BOOTH  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 10992 01 OF 02 051326Z

ANNOUNCED TO THE COMMONS ON JUNE 29 A PACKAGE OF  
MEASURES AIMED AT PROVIDING SOME FORM OF EMPLOYMENT EX-  
PERIENCE FOR THE YOUNG UNEMPLOYED. THE SCHEME, WHICH HE  
TERMED "A NEW DEAL FOR BRITAIN'S YOUTH", IS IN ESSENCE A  
RATIONALIZATION AND EXTENSION OF CURRENT POLICIES, AND IS  
EXPECTED TO COST A TOTAL OF 800 MILLION POUNDS OVER ITS  
FIVE-YEAR LIFE. ITS STATED AIM OF PROVIDING AN OPPOR-

TUNITY FOR "ALL" YOUNG PEOPLE IS A NEW GOAL. THE GOVERNMENT HOPES THAT A TOTAL OF 1,150,000 YOUTHS WILL BENEFIT FROM THE PACKAGE. THE REVISED POLICY REPRESENTS SOMETHING OF AN ACCOMMODATION TO THOSE TRADE UNIONS WHO HAVE BEEN CALLING FOR INCREASED ACTION ON UNEMPLOYMENT AS ONE OF THE PREREQUISITES TO ANY FORM OF CONTINUED WAGE RESTRAINT. END SUMMARY.

1. SINCE OCTOBER 1975 A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT-FUNDED SCHEMES HAVE BEEN AIMED AT THE GROWING NUMBERS OF YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO FIND WORK. THESE SCHEMES HAVE BEEN DIRECTED AT PROVIDING THE YOUNG WITH TRAINING, WORK EXPERIENCE, OR 'CREATED' EMPLOYMENT ON PROJECTS OF COMMUNITY VALUE. DESPITE THE GROWING NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE BELOW THE AGE OF 19, THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT THE POLICIES HAVE AMELIORATED THE IMPACT ON THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF THE NUMBER OF YOUNG PEOPLE COMING ONTO THE LABOR MARKET FOR THE FIRST TIME.

2. ON JUNE 29 EMPLOYMENT SECRETARY ALBERT BOOTH ANNOUNCED A PACKAGE OF MEASURES DRAWN LARGELY FROM A MAY 1977 WORKING PARTY REPORT PRESENTED TO THE MANPOWER SERVICES COMMISSION. THE PROPOSALS, TERMED BY BOOTH "A NEW DEAL FOR BRITAIN'S YOUTH", HAVE BEEN CHRISTENED THE YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM (YOP). A CENTRAL AIM OF THE YOP IS THAT NO SCHOOL LEAVER SHOULD BE WITHOUT A PLACE ON

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LONDON 10992 01 OF 02 051326Z

ONE OF THE SCHEMES BY EASTER OF THE YEAR FOLLOWING HIS (HER) LEAVING SCHOOL.

3. THE PROGRAM WILL PROVIDE 18 POUNDS PER WEEK FOR YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGED IN TRAINING (ON EMPLOYERS' PREMISES, IN GOVERNMENT SKILL CENTERS, OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS), OR IN WORK EXPERIENCE PROJECTS. THE LATTER MAY BE RELATED TO COMMUNITY SERVICE, SPONSORED BY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BODIES, LOCAL AUTHORITIES OR PRIVATE INTEREST GROUPS LIKE WELFARE ORGANIZATIONS. WORK EXPERIENCE PROJECTS MAY ALSO BE CONDUCTED IN THE FACTORIES OF PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYERS. TO AID THE TRANSITION FROM THE OLD PIECE-MEAL PACKAGE TO THE NEW. UNIFIED STRUCTURE, THE EXISTING JOB CREATION PROGRAM, DUE TO EXPIRE AT THE END OF AUGUST, WILL BE EXTENDED INTO THE NEW YEAR. THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SUBSIDY HAS ALSO BEEN EXTENDED FOR A FURTHER SEVEN MONTHS TO THE END OF MARCH 1978.

4. THE PACKAGE OF PROPOSALS ANNOUNCED LAST WEEK RELATES TO THE 5-YEAR PERIOD BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER 1978. ESTIMATES SUGGEST THAT THE YOP SHOULD PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR 230,000 YOUNG PEOPLE EACH YEAR. THE GROSS ANNUAL

COST IS EXPECTED TO BE 160 MILLION POUNDS THOUGH SAVINGS FROM UNEMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS SHOULD BE OFFSET AGAINST THIS FIGURE IN ESTIMATING THE NET COST OF THE YOP. THE NET COST FOR THE FIRST FULL YEAR IS PUT AT 96 MILLION POUNDS.

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 10992 02 OF 02 051336Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07  
INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 TRSE-00 FRB-01 OMB-01  
DODE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 HEW-06 SS-15  
NSC-05 H-02 EPG-02 /102 W  
-----056398 051341Z /47

R 051233Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5782  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
USMISSION NATO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USNMR SHAPE  
AMCONSUL BELFAST  
AMCONSUL EDINBURGH

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 10992  
INUSEEC/UUVECD

5. COMMENT: WHILE THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT THE YOP PROVIDES A NEW IMPETUS TO UK POLICY ON YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT, THE DEGREE TO WHICH IT IS AN INNOVATIVE MOVE SHOULD NOT BE EXAGGERATED. THE POLICY PROPOSALS ARE AT BASE, LARGELY A RATIONALIZATION AND EXTENSION OF PREVIOUS POLICY MEASURES.

6. BOOTH'S ANNOUNCEMENT PROVIDES SOME EVIDENCE THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETELY INSENSITIVE TO THE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 10992 02 OF 02 051336Z

CRITICISM FROM THE TRADE UNIONS ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT, PARTICULARLY AMONG THE YOUNG. EVEN THOSE UNIONS BEHIND AN EXTENSION OF WAGE RESTRAINT HAVE MADE PUBLIC CALLS FOR INCREASED GOVERNMENT ACTION ON UNEMPLOYMENT. WHILE THE CURRENT POLICY WILL NOT SATISFY THE BROADER DEMANDS FOR REFLATION MADE BY SOME UNIONS, IT DOES REPRESENT AN ATTEMPT TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS OF UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG A PARTICULARLY HARD-HIT GROUP. THE YOP WILL ALSO PROVIDE SOME SATISFACTION FOR THOSE WHO HAVE POINTED TO THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS OF A CHRONIC, HIGH RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE. IT INDICATES THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S PRIORITY IS TO PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE UNABLE TO FIND JOBS, SO THAT THEY ARE ABLE TO MAKE A FULLER CONTRIBUTION WHEN UNEMPLOYMENT AGAIN FALLS.

BREWSTER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EMPLOYMENT, YOUTH, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS, LABOR OBJECTIVES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 05-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LONDON10992  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770238-0057  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** LONDON USEEC  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770792/aaaadceztel  
**Line Count:** 195  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** cc215171-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1968112  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THE YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM: \"A NEW DEAL FOR BRITAIN'S YOUTH\"? SUMMARY. SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EMPLOYMENT ALBERT  
**TAGS:** ELAB, PINT, UK  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/cc215171-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009